

## NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENEDETT,  
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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No. 257

ANNUAL REPORTS THIS EVENING.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Fourth St.—ITALIAN OPERA.

KILGORE GARDEN, Broadway—FIGHT ROPE FRANKS—FIVE MEN—DANCE—GRAND.

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery—LIFE IN NEW YORK—MEXICO—THE LAST OF THE POLYGLOTS.

BURLINGTON NEW THEATRE, Broadway—OPPOSITE BROADWAY—THEATRE—A HOLLAND FOR AN OLIVER.

CHAMBERS STREET THEATRE, (late Bowery's)—OPPOSITE BOWERY—THEATRE.

BARNUM'S AMERICAN MUSEUM, Broadway—Afternoon—THEATRE AND WONDER OF WOMEN—LARGE THEATRE—OPPOSITE BOWERY—THEATRE.

BROADWAY VARIETIES, 472 Broadway—THE SENSITIVE PLANT—THEATRE.

480, CHURCH &amp; WOODS MINSTRELS, 444 Broadway—THEATRE—OPPOSITE BOWERY—THEATRE.

BUCKLEY'S GARDEN, 608 Broadway—THEATRE—OPPOSITE BOWERY—THEATRE.

BROADWAY VARIETIES, 604 Broadway—CONCERT BY THE SENSITIVE PLANT—THEATRE.

BROOKLYN MUSEUM, Brooklyn—DON CASAR DE BAZAN—THEATRE—OPPOSITE BOWERY—THEATRE.

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account of the fire in Hamersley street, will be found elsewhere.

Dr. J. Dubois, of New Utrecht, who contracted the yellow fever by attending upon the sick, died of the disease on Saturday afternoon.

The market for cotton and wool at Providence continues firm. The demand for printing cloths was active, with an upward tendency in prices. Sixty-seven thousand pieces were sold during the week, most of which has yet to be manufactured.

The foreign newspaper Cambria and Arabia caused holders of cotton on Saturday to manifest greater firmness; the sales were confined to about 800 bales, without quotable change in prices. Flour advanced 5c, a 10c, per barrel, and wheat from 2c, 3c, per bushel; the sales of wheat on the spot, and to arrive, on Friday and Saturday last, exceeded 200,000 bushels, taken chiefly for export. Common to choice new white Southern, Western and Canadian sold from \$1.45 to \$1.75, the latter figure for choice Canadian, and red do. at \$1.50, \$1.55 to \$1.60. Corn was also 2c, 3c, higher, and was sold at 70c, a 72c, for sound mixed. Pork sold at \$19.87, check on the same day; while in the usual way it closed at \$20. Sugar was active, and purchases were made pretty freely by the trade, and by refiners, at full prices. The sales embraced about 2,000 hhds. Cuba masovado, 49 Porto Rico, 400 boxes brown Havana and 7,400 bags Manila for refining; the prices for all of which are given in another column. In some descriptions, the market closed at a advance. Coffee was firm, with fair transactions at full prices. The sales embraced 1,600 bags Rio, and about 400 do. Laguayra, at prices given in another place. Freight was steady, with engagements of grain to Liverpool and London at 8d, a 9d, and flour at 2s, a 2s, 3d.

The News from California—Voluntary Disbanding of the Vigilance Committee.

The intelligence which is brought us from California by the mails of the George Law is of an important character. It appears that on the 10th of August last, after a grand military parade, the Committee of Vigilance, at San Francisco, voluntarily ceased to exist. Its respective companies were disbanded, its military organization was dissolved, and nothing remained of it but an Executive Committee of a merely nominal character. One of its latest acts was the release of Judge Terry, whose victim having recovered from what was deemed a mortal wound, stood no longer in the way of the Judge's discharge. The termination of these difficulties was not marked by any further disorders—everything went on as if nothing extraordinary had happened. The existence of the Committee was but a political parenthesis, which is now left out, without injuring the sense of anything. The sleep-of-war John Adams arrived in port a few days previously to this event, and her commander used his influence for the release of Judge Terry; but the Committee acted upon their own motion and in their own way. There has been a very remarkable phase, not only in the history of California, but in the history of the United States. Those who predicted a reign of terror, or suspected the underlaying of a spirit of disunion and secession, have been, we are happy to say, greatly mistaken. It is to be observed that this spontaneous movement of the people of San Francisco had a peculiar object. It was not to create, but to put down disorder; not to overthrow, but to secure the supremacy of the laws; not to do any violence to the State, but to preserve tranquillity. Their arrangements, though effective, were merely precautionary; and moderate counsels—wonderful as it may appear—marked their proceedings during their three months' administration. If absolute necessity, if the most appalling danger, if perfect insubordination of life and property be any excuse for the assumption of extraordinary powers, the friends of the Committee claim that they are fully excused. The readiness with which they have laid down their arms certainly vindicates the honesty and integrity of their motives. At all events, an important problem has been satisfactorily solved, which affected the American character and threatened the stability of our institutions.

It was supposed by many that the dissolution of the Committee would not have taken place until after the election, at which it was expected their influence would be paramount and immunity secured; but they did not wait for that; they have submitted themselves to the calm judgment of the people, and California is again tranquil.

The people having successfully tried their strength, will, we trust, be able to sustain themselves from any future outrages by an appeal to the ballot box, and the exercise of their ordinary and legitimate remedies. It appears that our institutions are, after all, triumphant over all the incidental difficulties which belong to political communities; that the masses rely on them as their best and safest citadel, and that their loyalty to the constitution and laws under which they have been bred and prospered is proof against every trial; their first and last thought in every danger.

Whatever instructions President Pierce and Secretary Davis may have sent out to the federal authorities in California, it is fair to suppose that they will prove a nullity when they reach their destination. It is not probable that the administration, in the present position of affairs, will aid the local authorities in making any arrests or in creating any greater hostility to the democratic party than now prevails in that State.

Rowdiness of Baltimore.—The contagion of the late ruffianly scenes at Washington, and of the border ruffianism which overshadows Kansas, appears to have broken out rather violently among the Fillmore and Buchanan politicians at Baltimore. One day we are informed that a Fremont meeting there is violently broken up by a set of rowdies, or patriots, whose knowledge of the constitution is about equal to their knowledge of the Koran; and the next day we are informed of a regular bloody battle in the same thriving and hospitable city between a detachment of Fillmoreites and a gang of the "unaffiliated democracy." From the violence of the fight and the deadly animosity which seems to have controlled these parties in it, we fear that there is but little hope of a fusion between the Know Nothings, or American Order, and the apparently blood thirsty democracy, upon Mr. Buchanan or Mr. Fillmore. Nations go to war to conquer a peace; but when democrats and Know Nothings go to fighting on the eve of a Presidential election, it signifies anything but peace. We really fear that Baltimore fight is a bad omen for the democracy, and that they will not be able to make much out of the Know Nothings.

Senator Clayton Gives It Up.—Hon. J. M. Clayton, of Delaware, has, it appears, written a letter to the National Intelligencer at Washington, declaring his intention to express no preference and take no part in this Presidential election. That's very queer. Mr. Clayton is a K. N., and Mr. Fillmore is a K. N. Why abandon Mr. Fillmore in this last extremity, when he wants so badly the vote of Delaware for a beginning? Mr. Clayton evidently gives it up. He has heard of the Maine election.

## The Missouri-Kansas Legislature and its Spurious Laws—Who are the Traitors?

The administration at Washington, the Buchanan democracy, the spurious civil authorities of Kansas, the United States army, and Mr. Pierce's border ruffians, have now openly and avowedly entered upon a war of extermination against the free State settlers of Kansas, upon the terrible charge that they are traitors and in a state of armed insurrection against the laws and the regularly constituted authorities of the Territory. Follow us, reader, through a brief and dispassionate examination of this matter, and you will soon see who are the traitors and where this crime of treason belongs.

The federal constitution is the supreme law. All laws, Congressional, State or Territorial, violative of this constitution, are null and void. This Supreme Law, therefore, over all the States and Territories—over New York and over Kansas—establishes the freedom of speech, the freedom of opinion, the freedom of the press, "the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition the government for the redress of their grievances;" and it ordains, too, that "the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed;" and that "the right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures shall not be violated;" &amp;c. And it further provides, that no person shall "be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation;" and it also declares that "excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted;" &amp;c. This is the supreme law of all the States and Territories—the federal constitution. And here we stick a pin, and proceed to another branch of our subject.

The Kansas-Nebraska law—the organic Territorial law of Kansas—was framed in pursuance of this constitution; and the saving feature of the act, which Col. Benton calls "the stump speech in the belly of the bill," distinctly declares that "it is not the intention of this act to legislate slavery into the Territory, or to exclude it therefrom, but to leave it to the people thereof, to be settled in their own way, subject only to the constitution of the United States." This is the organic Territorial law of Kansas. The settlers of the Territory are left perfectly free to settle their domestic institutions "in their own way, subject only to the constitution of the United States." Here, then, are the landmarks of the constitution and of the popular sovereignty of the act of Congress known as the Kansas-Nebraska bill. Now for the traitors; and we shall find them without the aid of a telescope.

On the day of its inauguration, the President of the United States took a solemn oath of fidelity to the constitution—the whole of it, to all the specifications we have given, and all that we have not given, including the special injunction that "he shall see the laws faithfully executed." Upon this last injunction hangs our main question of the Kansas treason and the Kansas traitors, and we shall see presently who, what, and where they are. We are close upon their trail.

With an eye to the constitutional rights of the people of Kansas, the organic Territorial law provides that none but bona fide settlers in the Territory shall have the right to vote, and this safeguard is hedged and fenced about with the necessary means for enforcing this just restriction of the elective franchise. Mark, too, the President had sworn to maintain the constitution and to see this law "faithfully executed." But let us inquire now what he has done; because, as the supreme executive guardian over the Territories, he is responsible for all those civil and military proceedings in Kansas, under cover of the law, which are among the most atrocious, atrocious and infamous violations of law.

In the first place, President Pierce has adopted the Missouri-Kansas Legislature and officials as the legitimate government of the Territory. But Governor Reeder had informed him otherwise, and had disclosed to him fully and specifically all the outrageously illegal means and instruments through which the said Missouri authorities were placed over the people of Kansas. Subsequently, a special Congressional committee, detailed to Kansas for the purpose, entered into a careful and methodical inquiry, and from the sworn testimony of hundreds of credible witnesses, the following facts were established:—

By the census of November, 1854, and that of January and February, 1855, it was ascertained that the number of legal voters in the Territory was 2,905. At the election of a delegate to Congress, the legal votes cast only amounted to about 350, while the illegal votes were 1,700 and upwards. Little interest seems to have been taken by the residents at this time in the slavery question. They were thinking of their personal interests, and engaged in the engrossing occupations necessarily attending a first settlement.

At the next election, while another census presented no larger number of legal voters than the previous one, the votes of the pro-slavery party had risen to 5,427, and the free State vote to only 791. The illegal vote was, therefore, 3,813, if the whole number of legitimate votes, 2,905, had been taken at this election. The report of the committee estimated the illegal vote to be 4,908.

In addition to the frauds thus committed in voting, was witnessed a premeditated invasion of the Territory by armed borders, who came some of them hundreds of miles, armed, as already stated, and in companies, under the command of officers, with baggage trains and all the appointments of an army, for the avowed purpose of carrying the election at all hazards. There being eighteen districts, or places where the polls were held, reserves of the invaders were held at different convenient points, from which were dispatched, as were wanted, men enough to turn the elections at all the doubtful precincts. When the judges appointed by the Governor refused to receive votes, they were driven from their posts, or intimidated into acquiescence by loaded pistols presented at their breasts. Many of the anti-slavery electors were not permitted to come near the polls, and, in some instances, the ballots were found (ballot stuffing) to exceed the tally lists in large quantities. When a free State voter was willing to be sworn as to his qualifications, he was driven off, with the cry of "shoot him!" "rip him up!" In every district but two or three, the greatest violence and disorder prevailed, and after the election was over the borders would strike their tents, do a little plundering, and cross the Missouri to their own homes.

This is the way the ruffian law and order party succeeded in carrying the Territorial Legislature, and in this way began the troubles and the bloodshed in Kansas. These are facts, and this is history, established by the sworn testimony of a whole of witnesses.

In his infamous and truckling policy, then, of

recognizing this spurious Missouri Legislature as the lawful government of Kansas, we are brought within short range of the first, most conspicuous and most criminal Kansas traitor, and it is no less a personage than Franklin Pierce, President of the United States. Here was his first overt act of infidelity to his constitutional oath "to see the law"—the Kansas organic law—"faithfully executed." Apprised of this ruthless armed invasion of spurious voters from Missouri, and of the mockery, insult and contempt which they had thrown upon the bona fide settlers of Kansas, and their rights under the law and the constitution, it was the first duty of the President to repudiate that bogus Missouri Legislature, and to lay the facts before Congress. But the party necessities of Mr. Pierce were more imperative than his oath; and so, in adopting that Missouri-Kansas Legislature, he became a traitor, in the vain delusion of this securing, through Southern nigger driving sympathy, the Cincinnati democratic nomination.

"The tree is known by its fruit." The bloody laws passed by the Missouri border ruffian Legislature of Kansas are on a par with the instruments employed to elect that Legislature. They are unconstitutional, illegal, atrocious, savage and infamous, and we use but the words of Gen. Cass, Mr. Douglas, Mr. Weller and other democratic Senators, in so declaring them, while they still sustain the traitorous administration, and the demoralized and utterly rotten and abandoned democratic party that would enforce the bloody code, even to the slaughter of every free white settler in Kansas.

These democratic Senators, who are now electioneering through the country for Mr. Buchanan as the anointed legate of Mr. Pierce and his policy of ruffian sovereignty, denounce the treason, yet support the traitors. Illustrious democratic Senators, and artful dodgers! No one cares whether they are willing to repeat this or that section of the laws of Kansas; no one thanks them for saying in the Senate that the Missouri-Kansas bill and chain were cruelities, or that it was very wrong to chain and imprison a man because he had opinions of his own on slavery; or that it was unjust to reject a man as a juror because he had said he was opposed to slavery; or that it was very unpleasant to be obliged to hang a man because he had whispered that if he were a slave he would run away. No one—we repeat it—cares whether these humane Senators uttered these very liberal opinions, or voted for them in one bill, designed to upset another, which went further, and cut off all these oppressive enactments at a blow, by compelling the President to sheath the sword. This is not the point. If they had been in earnest in their humanity and sincere in their horror, they would not have condoned their action to the repeal of sections or parts of the Missouri-Kansas Territorial laws: they would have gone manfully in for the repeal of the whole. They knew that the whole code was illegally adopted—the whole election which gave vitality to it was a fraud; they knew that its test oaths, its jury qualifications, its suppression of the freedom of speech and of the press, and its violation of the rights of conscience, were unconstitutional and illegal, without their tardy admission of the fact. It was, therefore, a brazen mockery, a political fraud, and an insult to the people of this country, to propose a repeal merely of certain sections of a code, which partial repeal carried with it a confirmation, an affirmation, and an endorsement of that illegal legislation itself.

The Kansas traitors, the border ruffian Legislature of Kansas and their infamous laws, with all their atrocities, the administration at Washington uphold at the point of the bayonet, and the rotten and demoralized nigger-driving democratic party which upholds the administration is pledged to its policy. In every way, and at every point, the free State settlers of Kansas are the aggrieved and outraged party. The constitution and the Kansas-Nebraska bill are on their side. They are not traitors in resisting the bloody code of Kansas as the offspring of unlawful authority. They are clearly right in this resistance. They are simply standing upon their lawful and constitutional rights as American citizens, in a common Territory of the Union; and every man of them who has suffered, in person or property, from the bloody ruffian policy of the administration, in Kansas, has a rightful claim upon the government for indemnity.

On the other hand, the first proceeding at the re-assembling of Congress should be a resolution in the House of Representatives for the impeachment of the President of the United States as a traitor—false to his oath to support the constitution, and false to his sworn duty of seeing the "laws faithfully executed." The rest, we presume, will be attended to by the American people in November; for the whole demoralized democratic party, and their policy and their candidate, are involved in this Kansas treason.

THE RELIGIOUS ELEMENT IN THE COMING REVOLUTION.—The religious element in the present contest between the supporters of Mr. Fremont on one side, and Mr. Buchanan on the other, is one of the most significant facts of the day. The protest of the three thousand New England clergymen against the course of Mr. Douglas in the Senate three years ago, was a considerable fact in its way; but the two great organs of Christianity and political morality on the question of the present day, are the press and the churches, and not so much the pauper parsons. The religious press of this city alone issues two hundred thousand sheets per week, and with the exception of some ten or twelve thousand, the whole of this vast influence is against the atrocious and wicked policy of the administration, the democracy, and its nominee, in relation to the forcing of slavery upon Kansas at the point of the bayonet.

The power of the religious press in all the free States is immense, and it has been most active during the past three years in preparing the minds of the members of the churches, of all denominations. The other organ is found in the church organization of the various sects. There are in the free States some four or five thousand churches belonging to the Protestant and Catholic organizations. They have probably five millions of communicants, of which number at least a million and a half are voters. This vast force, actuated by religious motives on the Kansas question, is coming out against Buchanan and the administration as it never did before. It is a great element, which has never yet been thoroughly awakened in any political contest in this country.

Hence, therefore, in these facts we find a clue to the real causes at the bottom of the recent elections in Iowa, Vermont and Maine. There must be something else beside mere political causes to have brought about these overwhelming changes—these sweeping revolutions.

This element, now for the first time thoroughly awakened, is a quiet, modest, unobtrusive

element. It does not run about the streets getting up torchlight processions, swearing, cursing, and employing other low, beastly, brutal and vulgar means to get up an unenviable democratic notoriety. No, this element only manifests itself in